JOB1

COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT FAQ

INFORMATION ON FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

IF YOUR EMPLOYMENT HAS BEEN IMPACTED FOR REASONS RELATED TO COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS), PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

It seems like selecting "furlough" makes workers filing for UI "monetarily ineligible." Is that correct?

That is not correct. The claimant's monetary eligibility is determined by the wages in the base period that are reported by the employer. None of the information entered manually by the claimant will have an effect on their monetary eligibility.

How can someone edit their application for UI if they enter inaccurate data?

If they are editing personal information (DOB, address, etc), they can login to their HiRE account and edit the information. If they need to edit information related to their employment history or their last employer, then they will need to contact the call center and speak to a representative.

What happens if someone thinks their benefit is being calculated incorrectly?

Once the claimant receives their monetary determination which shows the wages reported in the base period and the dates the base period covers, they can request a redetermination of wages. This should only be requested if they have proof that wages are missing from the base period. We only look at the wages during that time of employment for claims. For example: claims filed today would have a base period of 10/01/2018 through 09/30/2019. The wages that we use to determine eligibility are only those that were reported during that time. If there are missing wages, then there are instructions on their monetary determination that advises them on what is needed.

Is there a minimum amount of UI benefit?

The minimum amount of benefits that a claimant could receive weekly is $10 and the maximum amount of benefits that a claimant could receive weekly is $247.

<u>Monetary eligibility determined by the following?</u>

-Employee must have been paid wages by an employer who paid unemployment insurance taxes during the base period of their claim (also called covered employment.)

-The wages earned during the base period must be at least $1,200 and;

-Total at least 1.5 times your wages in the base period quarter when you earned the most money (also called the high quarter.)

When an employee mails in a paycheck to show proof of income, does it have to be the most recent paycheck (which will already have reduced hours because of COVID), or can it be the paycheck prior (which is just before the COVID crisis began)?

This depends on what is being requested. If the employee is sending a paycheck to request a redetermination due to missing wages, then the paycheck (or W2) needs to show information on wages earned during the base period. If they are submitting this information for proof of wages earned when filing weekly or severance/vacation pay, then the time period needed would be when the money was received.

When will UI benefits begin arriving?

Benefits will be paid once the claim is filed, issues are removed (if applicable), and the claimant files for the weekly benefits.

Does qualifying for unemployment insurance also qualify you for SNAP?

If approved for unemployment benefits, SNAP benefits are automatically embedded under the federal funds. However, after completing the UI benefits application, go to www.dcfs.la.gov/cafe for state benefits or text GETSNAP TO 898211

We have heard that with federal money people can get up to $600 additional per week, is that true?

Yes, per Congressman Cedric Richmond's Chief of Staff, people in certain industries who normally would not qualify for state benefits will receive the federal benefits. The floor amount for claimants will be $600.00.

Can 1099 workers/workers in the gig economy apply? Many are having issues.

Yes, although they may not be approved on the state level, they are eligible for the federal dollars.

How can people without transportation or internet apply for unemployment insurance?

They can call 866.783.5567 or reach out to JOB1 for assistance with the initial UI application and/or user name and password resets.